

## **International Brotherhood of Police Officers**

A DIVISION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Senate Bill 134 Labor & Public Employees Committee Public Hearing: 2/25/15

The International Brotherhood of Police Officers (IBPO) represents thousands of law enforcement professionals and other first responders across the country, including members who work in several towns here in Connecticut. We strongly support **Senate Bill 134 --AN ACT CONCERNING SEVERE MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL IMPAIRMENT AND WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE.** 

The IBPO appreciates that the Connecticut Legislature recognizes the unique risks and the unique traumas that are experienced day-in and day-out by police officers and other first responders and public safety professionals.

First Responders who are witnesses of severe violence and death and their aftermaths must try to endure and recover from these extremely traumatic experiences. Providing workers compensation coverage to first responders is a very good step to help these professionals and their families face the trauma and work to heal the pain and extreme mental and emotional impairments.

Thank you for proposing Senate Bill 134. The IBPO will work hard to assist in the passage of this very important and helpful legislation.

Contact: Attorney Bob Shea 860-989-5567; shea@shealawinc.com